

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Office Action of May 26, 2009, has been carefully reviewed and these remarks are responsive thereto. Claims 1-6, 7-16, 18-20, and 22-24 have been amended, claims 7 and 21 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer, and new claims 25-40 have been added. Claims 1-6, 7-16, 18-20, and 22-40 thus remain pending in this application upon entry of this amendment. No new matter has been introduced with these amendments. Reconsideration and allowance of the instant application are respectfully requested.

Amendments to the Specification

The specification has been amended to include disclosure originally contained in U.S. Patent Application 07/991,074, which this application claims priority to and which has been incorporated by reference on page 2 of Applicant's original specification as filed. Specifically, the disclosure is contained in 07/991,074, on page 122 lines 4-12, page 123 lines 5-14, and page 123 line 19 to page 124 line 11.

Claim Amendments and New Claims

Independent claim 1 has been amended to recite the feature of "a tuner configured to receive a video channel including a split screen with multiple video clips positioned in different portions of the split screen; ... wherein the terminal is configured to display one video clip of the multiple video clips in the electronic program guide."

Independent claim 8 has been amended to recite the feature of "a tuner configured to receive a video channel including a split screen with multiple video clips positioned in different portions of the split screen; and ... an electronic program guide comprising: a menu that is displayed with one video clip of the multiple video clips."

Independent claim 22 has been amended to recite the feature of "a tuner configured to receive a video channel including a split screen with multiple video clips positioned in different portions of the split screen; and ... an electronic program guide comprising: a plurality of interactive menus, ... and a main menu ..., and one video clip of the multiple video clips is displayed in one of the menus."

Independent claim 24 has been amended to recite the feature of “receiving a video channel and program control information from an operations center, the video channel including a split screen with multiple video clips positioned in different portions of the split screen; displaying, based on the program control information, an electronic program guide ...; [and]... displaying one video clip of the multiple video clips in the electronic program guide.”

New claims 25-40 have been added to depend one of claims 1, 8, 22, and 24 and recite features of scaling and repositioning one video clip of the multiple video clips, and masking one or more of the multiple video clips other than the one video clip.

Support for the amendments to claims 1, 8, 22, and 24, and for the new claims 25-40 may be found in the specification (as amended herein based on the parent application), at least on page 15 lines 12-16, page 30 line 22 to page 31 line 2, and on page 41 line 22 to page 42 line 2, and Figures 7a and 7b tuner 603 (references refer to the specification before amendment).

Claims 2-6, 9-16, and 18-20 have additionally been amended to correct issues of antecedent basis by replacing the term “system” with the term “set top terminal.”

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. 103(a)

Claims 1-7 and 24 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Goldstein (U.S. Pat. No. 5,410,326), in view of Strubbe, (U.S. Pat. No. 5,223,924), and in view of Montgomery (U.S. Pat. No. 5,387,941). Claims 8-16 and 18-21 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Banker (U.S. Pat. No. 5,477,262), in view of Gibson (U.S. Pat. No. 5,539,871), in view of Strubbe, and in view Montgomery. Claims 22 and 23 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Banker, in view of Strubbe, and in view of Montgomery. Applicant respectfully traverse these rejections.

As described above, Applicants have amended independent claims 1, 8, 22, and 24 to include the features of a “video channel including a split screen with multiple video clips positioned in different portions of the split screen” and to display one video clip of the multiple video clips “in” or “with” an electronic program guide or a menu of an electronic program guide. Applicants respectfully submit that none of the recited references teach or suggest such features, and indeed have no mention of receiving a “video signal including a split screen.” Accordingly,

claims 1, 8, 22, and 24 and claims 2-6, 9-16, 18-20, and 23 which depend on one of claims 1, 8, 22, and 24, are allowable over the cited references, individually or in any permissible combination. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Commonly-Owned Patents

Applicants call the Examiner's attention to commonly-owned patents US 7,363,645 and US 6,515,680, which claims priority to a common parent application, 07/991074, with this application (09/966,757). Applicants do not believe the claims in patents US 7,363,645 and US 6,515,680 present any double patenting issues as to the claims of this application (09/966,757). However, Applicants wish to notify the Examiner of the current state of the claims in US 7,363,645 and US 6,515,680 out of an abundance of caution.

Applicants have concurrently filed an Information Disclosure Statement herewith reporting references cited in US 7,363,645 and US 6,515,680 and in the parent application 07/991074, which have not been previously cited in the present application.

CONCLUSION

All the rejections having been addressed herein, Applicant submits that the claims are in condition for allowance. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney to expedite to advance prosecution of the application.

Respectfully submitted,
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